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Exd. 5 f.

IC 75-2436
10 July 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the
DCI's Alert Memoranda

1. On Thursday, 10 July 1975 I interviewed Colonel Charles F. Bunnell, USMC and Colonel Joseph P. Franklin, USA, both members of the CJCS Staff Group. Colonel Bunnell serves as General Brown's personal military advisor on Middle Eastern/Mediterranean affairs; Colonel Franklin is General Brown's NATO/Western Europe adviser and, in addition, has responsibility for the functional area of intelligence. Both have direct access to the CJCS.
- ✓ 2. These officers report that General Brown received all of the DCI's Alert Memoranda expeditiously, that there were no filters which shortstopped these warning messages, and that General Brown personally read them all.
- ✓ 3. They also noted that while seldom if ever did the AMs provide information that was new or startling--this information, when provided to the Chairman in the form of an AM, served as a means of focusing his attention on the specific trouble spot defined by the AM.
- ✓ 4. Colonels Bunnell/Franklin noted that General Brown receives other informal "alerts" by various personal channels. Two specific examples were cited--one related to the Middle East where Director, DIA provided a communication directly and personally to General Brown. A second example was that of Ambassador Ellsworth sending a warning message to the CJCS for "immediate delivery" when General Brown was in Heidelberg. In the latter instance, the problem area identified by Ellsworth was Argentina.
5. Both of the officers interviewed believe that regardless of the present effectiveness of AMs as a means of providing warning to top level policy makers, the format of the AM must be periodically changed. They argue that all forms of warning quickly become stale and hence lose their impact upon their audience.

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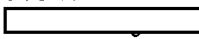
6. The officers interviewed were of the opinion that the volume of AMs was about right (13 during the past nine months) and that if the volume was increased significantly the AMs would quickly lose their impact.



Colonel, USMC

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4	<i>Gen Wilson</i>		
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Remarks:

*FYI: See esp.
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